

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 218360

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. THIS IS TO LET YOU KNOW WHERE WE STAND ON THE DAO PROJECT. YOU WILL SOON BE RECEIVING A CABLE SAYING THERE IS NO PROBLEM ON ELECTRICITY AND FLOOR WEIGHTS-- EXTRA 34,000 POUNDS WILL ONLY BE ADDED TO LOAD-BEARING WALLS AND IN FACT, WILL ACT TO STRENGTHEN THEM, ACCORDING TO FBO. ON GETTING MATERIALS TO MOSCOW, WE SAT DOWN WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED AND CAME UP WITH FOLLOWING OPTIONS (IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE): (1) SHIPPING EVERYTHING IN AS DIPLOMATIC CARGO ON A REGULAR CARGO FLIGHT FROM WESTERN EUROPE TO MOSCOW (THIS HAS SINCE BEEN PROVED IMPOSSIBLE SINCE ONLY REGULAR CARGO FLIGHTS ARE SOVIET); (2) SHIPPING IT AS A SEPARATE SPECIAL SECTION OF A REGULAR PAN AM FLIGHT; (3) BOOKING A PAN AM CHARTER FLIGHT FOR CARGO PURPOSES; (4) SHIPPING PACKAGES ONE AT A TIME AS DIPLOMATIC POUCHES; (5) SENDING EVERYTHING IN ON COURIER ACCOMPANIED TRUCKS FROM HELSINKI. IN CHECKING SOME OF ABOVE OUT WITH PAN AM, WE DISCOVERED THAT CHARTER-

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ING A PAN AM FLIGHT FOR PURPOSES OF SENDING IN COURIER-

ACCOMPANIED DIPLOMATIC CARGO IS POSSIBLE. PAN AM SAYS THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO BRING IN SUCH A CHARTER AND ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE THE BUSINESS. PACKAGES WOULD BE BURLAPPED,

BANDED, AND TAGGED HERE AND SENT DULLES/SHANNON/COPENHAGEN MOSCOW DIRECTLY. WE WOULD MAKE SURE FLIGHT ARRIVED DURING DAYTIME SO THAT MATERIAL COULD BE CLEARED AND TAKEN TO EMBASSY WITHOUT STAYING OVERNIGHT AT AIRPORT. TWO COURIERS WOULD PROVIDE COVERAGE OF MATERIAL LEFT AT AIRPORT WHILE TRUCKS WERE MOVING PART OF SHIPMENT TO EMBASSY. MATERIAL WOULD BE PLACED IN STEEL VANS IN EMBASSY COURTYARD AND WELDED SHUT UNTIL READY FOR USE. THIS IS ALL STILL IN PRELIMINARY STAGE, WITH NO DECISIONS MADE, BUT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR VIEWS BEFORE WE PROCEED.

2. INS CO TOLD VO THEY DO NOT AGREE WITH INS ROME'S COLLECTIVE INELIGIBILITY DOCTRINE AS STATED PARA 3 ROME 14189. THEY ARE WRITING TO FALCHER.

3. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO LARRY NAPPER FROM JOHN FORD: WE RETURN 4 SEPTEMBER VIA PAN AM 44. PLEASE HAVE MOTOR POOL SEND CAR TO MEET US. PLEASE TELL TOM JOHNSON, WHO HAS OUR KEY, THAT SIRPA WILL ALSO RETURN SATURDAY MORNING. COULD YOU ALSO ORDER AND IF POSSIBLE PICK UP FRIDAY ENOUGH RUBLE COUPONS FOR ZHIGULI WAGON WE HOPE TO BUY TUESDAY? WE'LL REIMBURSE. THANKS, JOHN.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT NIKOLAY ALEKSANDROVICH TIKHONOV HAS BEEN NAMED AS FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. TIKHONOV, 71, IS BELIEVED TO BE A BREZHNEV PROTEGE FROM DNEPROPETROVSK. HIS DESIGNATION MAY SUGGEST THAT MAZUROV IS SERVING AS ACTING CHAIRMAN IN PLACE OF KOSYGIN. THE NAMING OF A BREZHNEV PROTEGE OF ADVANCED YEARS MAY ALSO SUGGEST THAT THE LEADERSHIP IS RELUCTANT TO PERMIT ANY JOCKEYING FOR POSITION, PARTICULARLY ON THE PART OF MAZUROV. DON'T SURFACE THIS UNLESS YOU GET ANOTHER SOURCE.

5. WE HAVE SENT IN CABLE FORM A LETTER FROM BELL OF AGRICULTURE TO HIS JOINT COMMITTEE COUNTERPART THREATENING CONFIDENTIAL

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CANCELLATION OF THE SUNFLOWER/VEGETABLE OIL TEAM VISIT UNLESS THE SOVIETS COME UP IN SHORT ORDER WITH A BETTER TRAVEL PROGRAM. WE ENDEAVORED TO TONE THE LETTER DOWN LEST IT UNNECESSARILY PROVOKE AN IMPASSE WITH THE SOVIETS, BUT FEELINGS OF FRUSTRATION ARE RUNNING DEEP IN AGRICULTURE. WE THINK THE MESSAGE IS ALSO UNCLEAR ON THE POINT OF A FAR EAST TRIP, WHICH AGRICULTURE SAYS IT IS WILLING TO FOREGO--THIS IS, HOWEVER, ONLY IMPLIED IN

THE MESSAGE BY EXCLUSION FROM THE SEVEN "ABSOLUTE MINIMUM" POINTS. IF YOU FIND THE MESSAGE TOO STRONG OR UNCLEAR, AND DECIDE TO COME IN WITH OBJECTIONS, WE WILL DO OUR BEST WITH BELL AND COMPANY.

6. AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY A HOST OR CONTACT FOR FILIPPOV AT MICHIGAN STATE, OR UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN; PERHAPS SOMEONE COULD PHONE HIM DIRECTLY AND ASK HIM. THE FBI OBJECTION IS NOT BASED ON VERY SERIOUS INFORMATION.

7. EVEN WITH BOTH EARS TO THE POLITICAL GROUND I CAN'T SEE ANY PROBLEM ABOUT ATTACHE GOING TO RIGA-BEYOND THE USUAL. SPEAKING OF TRIPS, HAVE A CLOSE LOOK AT THE SCHLESINGER ITINERARY; AND ENTOURAGE. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE PRC HAS MADE COMMITMENTS ON ITINERARIES IN ADVANCE. MANY OF THESE PLACES ARE SENSITIVE, EITHER BECAUSE THEY ARE NEAR THE BORDER OR BECAUSE OF DEFENSE INDUSTRIES THERE. WE WILL PLAY UP THE "STRICTLY PRIVATE" LINE, BUT MOSCOW WILL SQUIRM.

8. FOR THE AMBASSADOR: ALL OF US IN SOV WILL MISS YOU. IT HAS BEEN A RARE PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH YOU DURING THE PAST YEARS. BOTH PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY. WE ALL HOPE WE WILL HAVE THIS PRIVILEGE AGAIN IN OUR CAREERS, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON IN WASHINGTON. KISSINGER

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